REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS

A STATISTICAL PROFILE ON WOMEN IN THE REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS

Ministry of Women, Family Welfare and Child Development

8 March 1999

A Statistical Profile

on

Women

in

The Republic of Mauritius

MINISTRY OF WOMEN, FAMILY WELFARE AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

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FOREWORD

The Statistical Profile of Women in Mauritius and Rodrigues provides important indicators to measure our progress in eliminating discrimination against women and reducing gender gaps in sectors such as education, health, employment and economic and political participation.

This year, once again the figures contained in this document indicate certain positive aspects such as the higher examination pass rate of girls in 1997 at CPE (67.3% as compared to 59.4% for boys), SC (77.2% as compared to 73.7% for boys), the improved life expectancy, a decrease in the number of girls getting married between the ages of 15 and 19 and the decrease in fertility rates, among others. On the other hand, gender disparities are quite wide in employment, tertiary education, political and economic participation. Though women constitute 50% of the population, only 2.8% are represented in village councils, only 8.7% in municipal councils, only 3.4% in financial and business activities, only 3% are professionals. 169,800 women are in the labour force as compared to 335,700 men and in 1995 the median salary was Rs 2,300 for women as compared to Rs 3,500 for men. In the Civil Service, there are 12,815 women as compared to 42,878 men.

Some disturbing factors are that 32 girls below 15 and 2,062 between 15 and 19 gave birth, while 2,594 between 15 and 19 were married civilly. 46 women below 20 were widowed in 1997. Only 0.8% girls are enrolled in tertiary education as compared to 2.4% men. As far as health is concerned, the number of deaths among women caused by heart diseases increased from 29.2% in 1996 to 31% in 1997 while for cerebrovascular diseases, there has been an increase from 15.9% to 16.1% and for deaths caused by respiratory failure, the number has increased from 5.4% to 7.3%.

Our strategies for elimination of gender disparities have to take into consideration the above factors. The setting up of a Gender Bureau, the strengthening of the Women's Entrepreneurship Unit and launching of a microcredit scheme, the Protection from Domestic Violence Act, the opening of new Women & Family Centres, and legal and adult literacy classes are all geared towards reducing inequalities that prevent women from participating fully in the economic, social and political sectors.

I hope that the data contained in this publication will provide useful tools for decision makers, as gender mainstreaming concerns different organisations and needs the collaboration of participation of all sectors.

Indira Thacoor Sidaya (Mrs)
Minister

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Introduction

1. Demographic characteristics

1.1 Population

The resident population of the Republic of Mauritius was estimated at 1,159,729 in mid-1998 among whom 580,072 were females (nearly 562,000 in the island of Mauritius and around 17,700 in Rodrigues). Women constituted nearly 50% of the population in the Republic and the main island. In Rodrigues however, there were more women than men as indicated by a sex ratio of 101.4 females per 100 males (Table 2.1). The mean age of Mauritian women in 1998 was 30.8 years against 29.5 for men.

1.2 Marital status

Data for the Republic from the last 2 censuses revealed that the proportion of females in single state has decreased from 30.3% of the population aged 15 years and above to 26.1% from 1983 to 1990. This has naturally been coupled with an increase in the proportion of married women from 51.8% to 55.4%. As expected, widowhood among women was also on the increase (rising from 12.0% to 12.5%) due to two reasons - women are usually younger than their husbands and they live longer.

The composition of the male population by marital status is quite different from that of women . In 1990, unmarried males constituted 39.3% of all males aged 15 years and above against a corresponding figure of 26.1% for females. The proportion of married men was almost the same as for married women (55.2% against 55.4%), that of widowers was only 1.8% as compared to 12.5% for widows.

1.3 Religion

The distribution of the female population by religion has remained almost unchanged from 1983 to 1990. This is probably due to non-significant fertility and mortality differentials

among the different religious groups. Table 2.4 shows that in 1990, 52.5% of the women in the island of Mauritius were Hindus, 30.1% Christians and 16.8% Muslims. In Rodrigues, almost all women were of Christian faith representing over 99% of the total.

1.4 Orphans

Among those aged under 21 years in the Republic, the number of female orphans (without mother and father) in June 1998 was 351, and that for male orphans (387). There were in all some 280 female orphans in the island of Mauritius and 71 in Rodrigues.

1.5 Persons with disabilities

Up to date figures on persons with disabilities can be obtained from beneficiaries of invalidity pension. These persons should be certified by the medical board to be either permanently or substantially incapacitated to work to a degree of at least 60% for a period of at least 12 months. In the Republic, as at June 1998, the number of such persons was 8,692 for women compared to 8,814 for men. In the island of Mauritius there were 8,410 women with disabilities and in Rodrigues around 282 (Table 2.7).

1.6 Births

Fewer women gave birth to children in 1997 as compared to a year earlier. The number of births registered in the Republic during 1997 was 20,012, compared to 20,763 in 1996. The crude birth rate for the Republic was 17.4 for 1996 and 18.3 for 1997 and the total fertility rate which can be construed as the average number of children born per woman went down to 2.04 from 2.12. This decrease in the fertility rates has occurred both in the main island of Mauritius and in Rodrigues as shown in Table 2.9.

1.7 Marriages

The number of marriages increased in 1997 relative to 1996. In the Republic, only 10,867 women got married as compared to 10,700 a year earlier. In the island of Mauritius, the number increased from 10,502 to 10,654 and in Rodrigues from 198 to 233. The crude marriage

rate was 19.0 persons getting married per 1,000 midyear population for 1997 and 18.9 for 1996 for the Republic.

1.8 Divorces

Divorces, on the other hand, increased from 792 in 1996 to 891 in 1997. Most of the women getting divorced had a married life of around 5 to 9 years (Table 2.12).

1.9 Deaths

In 1997, some 3,340 female deaths were registered in the Republic up from 3,246 in 1996 . This brought up the female crude death rate to 5.8 for the Republic and to 5.8 for the island of Mauritius. In Rodrigues, however, a decrease was noted in the female death rate (from 4.2 to 4.6). Table 2.14 gives a breakdown of female deaths by cause. It shows that heart diseases and cerobrovascular diseases accounted for nearly 47% of all deaths among women.

Compared to men, mortality is lower for women. The male crude death rate was 7.8 in 1996 against 5.7 for women and the 1995 life expectancy at birth was 74.3 years for women as compared to 66.6 years for men.

2. Education

Data for the 1990 census show that most (77.5%) of the women in the Republic of Mauritius had attained primary education or more. This is the case in both the islands of Mauritius and Rodrigues, though in Rodrigues overall attainment is lower. In 1990, only 10.3% of Rodriguan women had attained secondary level as compared to 30.5% for women in the island of Mauritius. Details on 1996 enrolment rates and performance of girls in examinations are given in Tables 3.2 and 3.3 respectively. Again, these show that the current level of education is lower for girls in Rodrigues than in Mauritius.

1990 Census data also reveal that the overall educational attainment of women in the Republic of Mauritius is lower than for men. Among those aged 20 years and above, 77.5% of women had attained primary education or higher against 90.8% among men. However, current

statistics on education show that enrolment is now higher for girls than for boys. The 1996 primary and secondary enrolment rates were 92.6% and 48.6% for girls against 93.7% and 50.3% for boys. Regarding overall performance in examinations, girls do better than boys. In 1997 the pass rates for the Cerficate of Primary Education was 67.3% for girls as compared to 59.4% for boys. For the School Certificate examinations as well, girls recorded a higher pass rate - 77.2% against 73.7%.

3. Activity status

Though by law, a person must be at least 15 years of age to start working, censuses and surveys show that there are younger persons who enter the labour force. Consequently, the tables in this section are given for those aged 12 years and above.

The 1995 labour force survey showed that among the 440,400 women aged 12 years and above, 177,500 (40%) were exclusively housewives, 137,000 (31%) were employed, 54,200 (12%) were students and 22,200 (5%) unemployed. Compared to 1990, women are becoming more economically active - 36% of them were active in 1995 up from 32% in 1990. The women in employment are quite young, they had a mean age of nearly 35 years in 1995. 69% were below 40 years, 29% between 40 to 60 years and nearly 2% above 60. Classification of employed women by industry and occupation shows that women were mostly employed in the manufacturing sector (42%). Most of them could be classified as performing 'elementary occupations' or 'as plant and machine operators and assemblers'. Regarding salary and wages, 79% of the employed women drew a monthly salary not exceeding Rs 4,000 in 1995.

In Government services (both central and local Government) some 22% of the labour force in 1998 were women. Among the women employed in the various ministries, 62% were technicians, associate professionals and clerks.

Compared to men, women are less economically active and less fortunate on the labour market. In 1995, only 36% of women aged 12 years and above were active against nearly 75% among men of the same age. In the same period, a higher percentage of the labour force was unemployed among women (14%) than among men (8%). The median salary was also lower for women than for men - Rs 2,300 against Rs 3,500 monthly.

Table 1.1 - Basic facts - Republic of Mauritius, latest available year

	Period	
1. Population	1st July 1998	1,159,899
2. Population density (per km2)	1st July 1998	569
3. Population under 18 years	1st July 1998	368,968
4. Population growth rate (%)	1997	1.2
5. Crude birth rate (per 1,000)	1997	17.4
5. Total fertility rate	1997	2.04
6. Crude marriage rate (per 1,000)	1997	19.0
7. Divorce rate (per 1,000)	1997	1.6
8. Crude death rate (per 1,000)	1997	7.0
9. Infant mortality rate (per 1,000)	1997	20.3
10. Still birth rate (per 1,000)	1997	12.7
11. Maternal mortality rate (per 10,000)	1997	5.0
12. Life expectancy at birth (years)	1996	70.2
13. Literacy rate (%)	1990	81.4
14. Labour force	1997	505,000
15. Employed population	1997	475,700
16. Unemployed population	1997	29,800
17. Per capita GDP (Rs)		
at factor cost	1997 (est)	65,015
at market prices	1997 (est)	74,598
18. Inflation rate (%)	1997	6.6
19. Total exports (Rs Million)	1998 (est)	37,300
20. Total imports (Rs Million)	1998 (est)	46,500

Table 1.2 - Comparative statistics on men and women, Republic of Mauritius, latest available year

Characteristic	Unit	Period	Male	Female
1. Population	No.	1st July 1998	579,657	580,072
2. % of total population	%	1st July 1998	50.0	50.0
3. Mean age	Years	1st July 1998	29.5	30.8
4. Population by marital status (aged 15 years & over)	%	1990 Census		
Single			39.3	47.7
Married			57.2	40.7
Widowed			1.8	8.8
Divorced/separated			1.5	2.5
Other			0.2	2.4
5. Population by religious group	%	1990 Census		
Hindu			50.5	50.8
Christian			32.2	32.4
Muslim			16.3	16.3
Other			0.8	0.6
6. Orphans aged below 20 years	No.	June 1998	387	351
7. Persons with disabilities (aged 15 to 60 years)	No.	June 1998	8,814	8,692
8. Mean age at civil marriage	Years	1997	30.8	25.7
9. Death rate	per 1,000	1997	8.1	5.8
10. Life expectancy at birth	Years	1996	66.4	74.3
11. Population by educational attainment (aged 20 years & over)	%	1990 Census		
Nil & preprimary			9.2	22.3
Primary			47.6	46.7
Secondary			40.5	30.0
Tertiary			2.4	0.8

Table 1.2 - Comparative statistics on men and women, Republic of Mauritius, latest available year (cont'd)

Characteristic	Unit	Period	Male	Female
12. Enrolment ratio	%	1997		
Primary			107	108
Secondary			53	57
13. Pass rate	%	1997		
CPE			59.4	67.3
SC			73.7	77.2
HSC			71.6	74.3
14. Labour force	No.	1997	335,700	169,800
15. Activity rate (12 yrs & above)	%	1997	73.9	36.4
16. Employed population	No.	1997	322,600	153,100
of whom:				
Professionals,legislators, senior officials, managers, technicians & associate professionals	No.	1995	36,300	19,700
17. Median monthly salary	Rs	1995	3,500	2,300
18. Unemployed population	No.	1997	13,100	16,700
19. Population employed in civil service	No.	June 1998	42,878	12,815
of whom:				
Professionals,legislators, senior officials, managers, technicians & associate professionals	No.	June 1998	12,683	7,353

Table 2.1 - Estimated resident population of women and sex ratio, Republic of Mauritius, Island of Mauritius & Island of Rodrigues, 1 July 97 & 1 July 98

Country/Island	Female resident population		Sex ratio*	
	1 July 97	1 July 98	1 July 97	1 July 97
Republic of Mauritius	573,847	580,072	100.0	101.1
Island of Mauritius	556,208	562,342	100.0	100.0
Island of Rodrigues	17,639	17,730	101.2	101.3

* No. of women per 100 men

Table 2.2 - Estimated resident population of women by age, Republic of Mauritius, Island of Mauritius & Island of Rodrigues, 1 July 97 & 1 July 98

Age-group (years)	Rep. of Mauritius		Isl. of Mauritius		Isl. of Rodrigues	
	1 July 96	1 July 98	1 July 97	1 July 98	1 July 97	1 July 98
Under 1	9,910	9,629	9,567	9,292	343	337
1 - 4	41,996	40,841	40,608	39,434	1,388	1,407
5 - 9	51,664	53,045	49,820	51,269	1,844	1,776
10 - 14	46,457	46,135	44,349	44,116	2,108	2,019
15 - 19	57,155	55,802	54,597	53,246	2,558	2,556
20 - 24	49,254	51,913	47,224	49,797	2,030	2,116
25 - 29	45,730	44,140	44,388	42,749	1,342	1,391
30 - 34	50,748	50,576	49,654	49,474	1,094	1,102
35 - 39	46,409	47,541	45,432	46,556	977	985
40 - 44	40,823	41,455	40,087	40,632	736	823
45 - 49	34,599	36,452	33,978	35,857	621	595
50 - 54	24,215	26,254	23,585	25,655	630	599
55 - 59	18,766	18,726	18,152	18,097	614	629
60 +	56,121	57,563	54,767	56,168	1,354	1,395
Total	573,847	580,072	556,208	562,342	17,639	17,730

Table 2.3 - Distribution (%) of women aged 15 years & over by marital status, Republic of Mauritius, Island of Mauritius, Island of Rodrigues, 1983 & 1990 censuses

Marital status	Rep. of Mauritius		Isl. of Mauritius		Isl. of Rodrigues	
	1983	1990	1983	1990	1983	1990
Single	30.3	26.1	30.3	26.1	29.5	26.3
Married	51.8	55.4	51.8	55.7	51.5	47.3
In a union	2.1	2.1	1.9	1.9	9.1	10.4
Widowed	12.0	12.5	12.2	12.6	6.9	7.8
Divorced/Separated	3.7	3.6	3.8	3.6	2.8	3.8
Other	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.2	4.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 2.4 - Distribution (%) of women by religious group, Republic of Mauritius, Island of Mauritius, Island of Rodrigues, 1983 & 1990 censuses

Religious group	Rep. of Mauritius		Isl. of Mauritius		Isl. of Rodrigues	
	1983	1990	1983	1990	1983	1990
Hindu	50.8	50.8	52.6	52.5	0.4	0.3
Christian	32.4	32.4	30.2	30.1	98.9	99.1
Muslim	16.1	16.3	16.6	16.8	0.3	0.5
Other	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 2.5 - Number of female orphans* by age-group, Republic of Mauritius, Island of Mauritius, Island of Rodrigues, June 1997 & June 1998

Age-group (years)	Republic of Mauritius		Island of Mauritius		Island of Rodrigues	
	June 96	June 98	June 97	June 98	June 97	June 98
Under 5	3	4	3	4	0	0
5-9	75	87	68	62	24	25
10-14	155	158	123	124	32	34
15-19	152	74	128	64	24	10
20	48	28	46	26	2	2
Total	450	351	368	280	82	71

* refers to beneficiaries of Basic Orphan's Pension from the Ministry of Social Security & National Solidarity. Figures for those aged 15-20 years correspond to only those orphans in full-time education.

Table 2.6 - Number of widows* (aged below 60 years) by age-group, Republic of Mauritius, Island of Mauritius, Island of Rodrigues, June 1997 & June 1998

Age-group (years)	Republic of Mauritius		Island of Mauritius		Island of Rodrigues	
	June 97	June 98	June 97	June 98	June 97	June 98
Under 20	46	20	45	19	1	1
20-24	84	95	84	95	0	0
25-29	300	279	296	275	4	4
30-34	770	790	760	783	10	7
35-39	1,618	1,593	1,581	1,550	37	43
40-44	2,624	2,559	2,594	2,513	30	46
45-49	4,470	4,551	4,419	4,501	51	50
50-54	5,069	5,475	4,998	5,400	71	75
55-59	5,447	5,433	5,335	5,323	112	110
Total	20,428	20,795	20,112	20,459	316	336

* refers to beneficiaries of Basic Widow's Pension from the Ministry of Social Security and National Solidarity

Table 2.7 - Number of women with disabilities* (aged 15 to 60 years) by age-group, Republic of Mauritius, Island of Mauritius, Island of Rodrigues, June 1997 & June 1998

Age-group	Republic of Mauritius		Island of Mauritius		Island of Rodrigues	
(years)	June 96	June 98	June 97	June 98	June 97	June 98
Under 20	419	416	400	382	19	34
20-24	472	480	443	454	29	26
25-29	638	579	606	538	32	41
30-34	1,027	1,043	999	1,011	28	32
35-39	992	1,052	969	1,021	23	31
40-44	1,063	1,097	1,040	1,069	23	28
45-49	1,330	1,313	1,306	1,288	24	25
50-54	1,319	1,341	1,295	1,320	24	21
55-59	1,325	1,371	1,290	1,327	35	44
Total	8,585	8,692	8,348	8,410	237	282

* refers to beneficiaries of Basic Invalid's Pension from the Ministry of Social Security and National Solidarity

Table 2.8 - Number of women giving birth by age-group, Republic of Mauritius, Island of Mauritius, Island of Rodrigues, 1996 & 1997

Age-group	Republic of Mauritius		Island of Mauritius		Island of Rodrigues	
(years)	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
Under 15	22	32	19	24	3	8
15-19	2,152	2,068	2,034	1,946	118	122
20-24	6,167	6,270	6,000	6,074	167	196
25-29	5,975	5,598	5,819	5,462	156	136
30-34	4,122	3,833	4,004	3,719	118	114
35-39	1,618	1,620	1,526	1,559	92	61
40-44	342	337	323	308	19	29
45-49	15	26	11	23	4	3
50 & above	2	1	1	1	1	0
Not stated	83	67	66	55	17	12
Total	20,498	19,852	19,803	19,171	695	681

Table 2.9 - Selected fertility rates, Republic of Mauritius, Island of Mauritius, Island of Rodrigues, 1996 & 1997

Rate	Republic of Mauritius		Island of Mauritius		Island of Rodrigues	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997 [7]
Crude birth rate [1]	18.32	17.44	18.25	17.37	20.47	19.40
General fertility rate [2]	64.28	61.14	63.92	60.79	77.26	72.77
Total fertility rate [3]	2.12	2.04	2.12	2.03	2.50	2.34
Gross reproduction rate [4]	1.05	1.00	1.05	1.00	1.28	1.17
Net reproduction rate [5]	1.02	0.97	1.01	0.96	1.21	1.10
A.S.F.R [6] (by age-group)						
15-19	38.4	36.9	37.9	36.2	50.5	51.6
20-24	130.0	127.7	131.6	129.0	100.3	98.5
25-29	130.3	122.8	130.5	123.4	118.2	102.8
30-34	80.7	75.8	80.0	75.1	117.5	106.0
35-39	36.0	35.0	34.7	34.4	77.0	63.5
40-44	8.7	8.3	8.4	7.7	32.0	40.8
45-49	0.5	0.8	0.4	0.7	5.3	4.8

[1] registered live births per 1,000 mid-year population

[2] live births occurred per 1,000 women aged 15-49 years

[3] the average no. of children born to an average woman assuming that she survives to the end of her childbearing age and is subjected to a fixed shedule of age-specific fertility rates.

[4] the average no. of daughters born to an average woman assuming that she survives to the end of her childbearing age and is subjected to a fixed shedule of age-specific fertility rates.

[5] the extent to which the average woman will replace herself, assuming a fixed schedule of ave-specific mortality rates to prevail through her reproductive life-span.

[6] live births occurred per 1,000 women in each age-group

[7] provisional

Figure 1 - Age-specific fertility rates
Island of Mauritius & Island of Rodrigues, year 1997

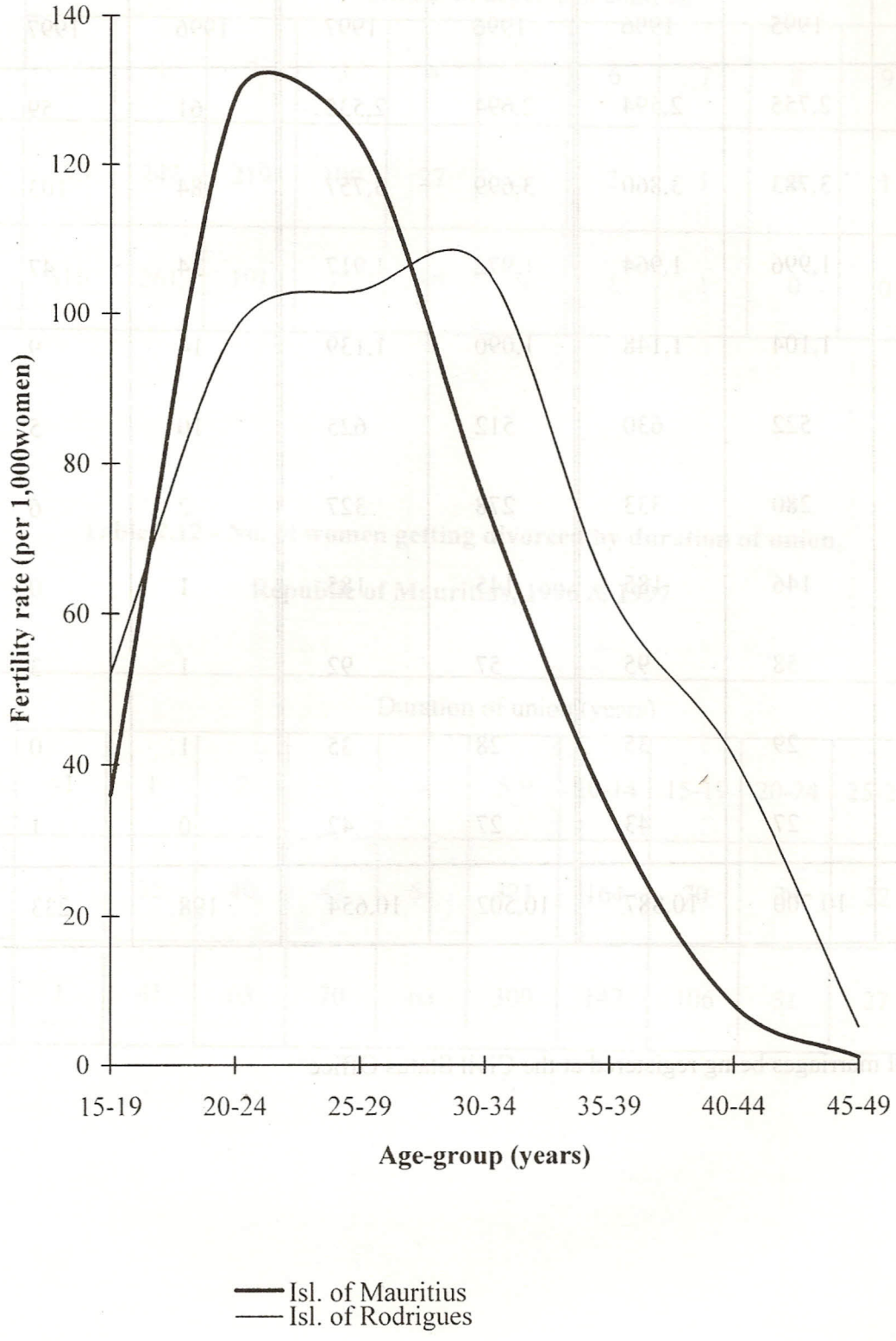

Table 2.10 - No. of women getting married* by age-group, Republic of Mauritius, Island of Mauritius, Island of Rodrigues, 1996 & 1997

Age-group	Republic of Mauritius		Island of Mauritius		Island of Rodrigues	
(years)	1995	1996	1996	1997	1996	1997
15-19	2,755	2,594	2,694	2,535	61	59
20-24	3,783	3,860	3,699	3,757	84	103
25-29	1,996	1,964	1,972	1,917	24	47
30-34	1,104	1,148	1,090	1,139	14	9
35-39	522	630	512	625	10	5
40-44	280	333	278	327	2	6
45-49	146	185	145	185	1	0
50-54	58	95	57	92	1	3
55-59	29	35	28	35	1	0
60+	27	43	27	42	0	1
Total	10,700	10,887	10,502	10,654	198	233

* refers to civil marriages being registered at the Civil Status Office

Table 2.11 - No. of women getting divorced by number of dependent children, Republic of Mauritius, 1996 & 1997

Year	Number of dependent children											Total
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 & over	
1996	195	242	219	100	27	3	3	1	0	1	1	792
1997	316	261	191	72	40	9	1	1	0	0	0	891

Table 2.12 - No. of women getting divorced by duration of union, Republic of Mauritius, 1996 & 1997

Year	Duration of union (years)											Total
	<1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30 & over	
1996	1	35	40	47	51	321	164	70	29	22	12	792
1997	1	41	63	70	63	309	147	106	51	27	13	891

Table 2.13 - Female death rate (per 1,000) by age-group, Republic of Mauritius, Island of Mauritius, Island of Rodrigues, 1996 & 1997

Age-group (years)	Republic of Mauritius		Island of Mauritius		Island of Rodrigues	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
Under 1	18.9	16.6	18.7	16.6	24.1	17.5
1-4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	1.4	-
5-9	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.5
10-14	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.2	-	0.5
15-19	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.8
20-24	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.6	-	-
25-29	0.6	0.9	0.6	0.9	-	1.5
30-34	0.9	1.1	0.9	1.1	-	2.7
35-39	1.0	1.4	1.0	1.4	2.0	3.1
40-44	2.1	1.9	2.0	1.9	2.8	1.4
45-49	3.3	3.4	3.3	3.4	-	1.6
50-54	7.0	6.0	7.1	6.0	1.6	4.8
55-59	8.7	9.6	8.7	9.8	8.4	4.9
60+	42.1	42.5	42.2	42.6	37.1	40.6
Total	5.7	5.8	5.8	5.9	4.2	4.6

Table 2.14 - Selected principal causes of death among women, Republic of Mauritius, 1996 & 1997

Cause of death	No. of deaths		%	
	1996	1997	1996	1997
Heart diseases	949	1,044	29.2	31.3
Cerebrovascular disease	515	538	15.9	16.1
Pneumonia	96	100	3.0	3.0
Respiratory failure	174	244	5.4	7.3
Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome and nephrosis	191	168	5.9	5.0
Diabetes mellitus	145	156	4.5	4.7
Bronchitis, emphysema and asthma	74	72	2.3	2.2
Hypertensive disease	70	87	2.2	2.6
Senility without mention of psychosis	100	77	3.1	2.3
Septicaemia	39	48	1.2	1.4
Malignant neoplasm of the uterus	67	35	2.1	1.0
Malignant neoplasm of the female breast	44	49	1.4	1.5
Maternal deaths	6	10	0.2	0.3
Other causes	776	712	23.6	21.3
Total	3,246	3,340	100.0	100.0

Table 2.15 - Female life expectancy at selected ages, Republic of Mauritius, Island of Mauritius, Island of Rodrigues, year 1995

Age-group (years)	Republic of Mauritius	Island of Mauritius	Island of Rodrigues
0	74.3	74.2	75.8
1	74.4	74.4	76.0
5	70.6	70.5	72.3
10	65.7	65.6	67.5
20	55.9	55.9	57.5
30	46.3	46.2	47.7
40	36.7	36.7	38.1
50	27.7	27.6	29.2
60	19.5	14.5	20.8

Table 3.1 - % distribution of women aged 20 years & over (not attending school) by educational attainment, Republic of Mauritius, Island of Mauritius, Island of Rodrigues, 1990 Census

Educational attainment	Republic of Mauritius	Island of Mauritius	Island of Rodrigues
Nil & preprimary	22.3	22.2	24.1
Primary	46.7	46.2	65.4
Secondary	30.0	30.5	10.3
Tertiary	0.8	0.8	0.0
Not stated	0.3	0.3	0.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 3.2 - Female (age-specific) enrolment rate in primary and secondary schools, Republic of Mauritius, Island of Mauritius, Island of Rodrigues, 1996 & 1997

Country/Island	Primary enrolment rate (%) (6 - 11) years		Secondary enrolment rate (%) (12 - 19) years	
	1996	1997	1996	1997
Republic of Mauritius	99.4	94.8	50.3	52.1
Island of Mauritius	99.5	94.8	51.0	52.7
Island of Rodrigues	97.8	94.2	35.4	39.3

Table 3.3 - Female pass rate (%) at the CPE, SC & HSC examinations, Republic of Mauritius, Island of Mauritius, Island of Rodrigues, 1996 & 1997

Examination	Republic of Mauritius		Island of Mauritius		Island of Rodrigues	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
CPE	68.9	67.3	69.4	67.8	58.8	54.6
SC	77.1	77.2	77.6	77.8	59.4	58.4
HSC	68.9	74.3	68.9	74.7	76.2	41.2

Table 4.1 - Female population aged 12 years and over by activity status, Republic of Mauritius, 1990 & 1995

Activity status	1990	1995
Economically active	130,600	159,200
of whom :		
Employed	124,000	137,000
Unemployed	6,600	22,200
Not economically active	275,500	281,200
of whom :		
Household duties only	212,500	177,500
Studies	40,900	54,200
Other	22,100	49,500
TOTAL	406,100	440,400

Figure 2 - Female population aged 12 years and over by activity status, Republic of Mauritius, 1990 & 1995

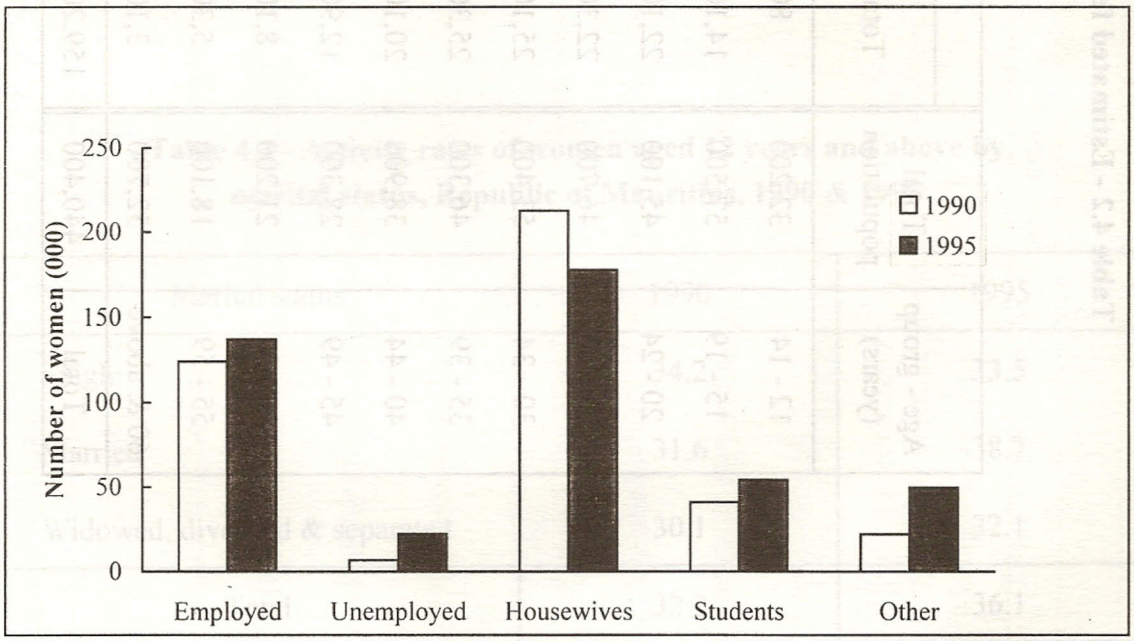

Table 4.2 - Estimated female population 12 years of age and over by activity status & age group, Republic of Mauritius, 1995

Age - group (years)	Total population	Economically active			Not economically active			
		Total	Employed	Unemployed	Total	Household responsibilities only	Studies / training	Other
12 - 14	32,200	800	400	400	31,400	3,600	26,200	1,600
15 - 19	57,500	14,100	9,300	4,800	43,400	15,200	25,500	2,700
20 - 24	45,100	22,100	16,800	5,300	23,000	19,000	2,400	1,600
25 - 29	46,700	22,300	18,500	3,800	24,400	22,700	100	1,600
30 - 34	53,400	25,100	22,000	3,100	28,300	26,300	0	2,000
35 - 39	46,300	25,300	23,200	2,100	21,000	19,600	0	1,400
40 - 44	38,900	20,100	18,800	1,300	18,800	17,200	0	1,600
45 - 49	28,300	12,900	12,200	700	15,400	14,300	0	1,100
50 - 54	21,200	8,100	7,800	300	13,100	11,700	0	1,400
55 - 59	18,100	5,300	5,100	200	12,800	10,500	0	2,300
60 & above	52,700	3,100	2,900	200	49,600	17,400	0	32,200
Total	440,400	159,200	137,000	22,200	281,200	177,500	54,200	49,500

Table 4.3 - Female labour force by age group, Republic of Mauritius, 1990 & 1995

Age - group (years)	Number		%	
	1990	1995	1990	1995
12 - 14	1,100	800	0.8	0.5
15 - 19	12,300	14,100	9.4	8.9
20 - 24	21,900	22,100	16.9	13.9
25 - 29	21,700	22,300	16.7	14.0
30 - 34	20,900	25,100	16.0	15.8
35 - 39	18,300	25,300	14.0	15.9
40 - 44	12,700	20,100	9.7	12.6
45 - 49	8,500	12,900	6.5	8.1
50 - 54	6,300	8,100	4.8	5.1
55 - 59	4,100	5,300	3.1	3.3
60 & above	2,800	3,100	2.1	1.9
12 & above	130,600	159,200	100.0	100.0

Table 4.4 - Activity rates of women aged 12 years and above by marital status, Republic of Mauritius, 1990 & 1995

Marital status	1990	1995
Single	34.2	33.5
Married	31.6	38.7
Widowed, divorced & separated	30.1	32.1
Total	32.2	36.1

Table 4.5 - Number of women in employment by industry, Republic of Mauritius, 1990 and 1995

Industry	Number (000)		%	
	1990	1995	1990	1995
Agriculture and fishing	17.2	17.3	13.9	12.6
Mining and quarrying	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Manufacturing	61.5	57.4	49.6	41.9
Electricity and water	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.2
Construction	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.4
Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles, motor cycles, personal and household goods	8.7	15.4	7.0	11.2
Hotels and restaurants	2.0	3.3	1.6	2.4
Transport, storage and communication	1.8	2.7	1.5	2.0
Financial intermediation, real estate, renting and business activities	3.4	4.6	2.7	3.4
Public administration and defence, compulsory social security	4.9	5.4	4.0	3.9
Education, health and social work	11.6	16.1	9.4	11.8
Other services	12.4	13.9	10.0	10.1
Total	124.0	137.0	100.0	100.0

Table 4.6 - Number of women in employment by occupation, Republic of Mauritius, 1990 and 1995

Occupation	Number (000)		%	
	1990	1995	1990	1995
Legislators, senior officials and managers	1.6	2.6	1.3	1.9
Professionals	2.7	4.3	2.2	3.1
Technicians and associate professionals	8.8	12.8	7.1	9.3
Clerks	15.0	18.2	12.1	13.3
Service workers, shop and market sales workers	8.4	15.3	6.8	11.2
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	2.4	3.5	2.0	2.6
Craft and related trades workers	10.2	6.1	8.2	4.5
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	40.1	35.4	32.3	25.8
Elementary occupations	34.8	38.8	28.1	28.3
Total	124.0	137.0	100.0	100.0

Table 4.7 - Percentage distribution of paid women employees by salary range, Republic of Mauritius, 1995

Wage/salary per month (Rs)	%
Under 2,000	44.3
2,001 - 4,000	34.3
4,001 - 6,000	10.1
6,001 - 8,000	5.9
8,001 - 10,000	2.4
10,001 - 15,000	2.3
15,001 - 20,000	0.6
20,001 and above	0.1
Total	100.0

Table 4.8 - Number of women employed in Government Services by Ministry, Republic of Mauritius, June 1998

Government Services	Number of women	% female
President's Office, Judicial etc	342	35.7
Prime Minister,s Office	745	7.6
Ministry of foreign Affairs & International Trade	120	47.1
Ministry of Economic Development & Regional Cooperation	136	46.6
Ministry of Industry & Commerce	103	43.1
Ministry of Land Transport, Shipping & Public Safety	120	13.9
Ministry of Finance	825	31.5
Ministry of Housing & Land Development	113	30.1
Ministry of Justice, Human Rights & Corporate Affairs	100	58.1
Ministry of Telecommunication & Information Technology	10	32.3
Ministry of Education & Human Resource Development	3,784	36.5
Ministry of Social Security & National Solidarity	462	46.4
Ministry of Arts & Culture	75	33.2
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Cooperatives	604	8.9
Ministry for Civil Service Affairs	301	62.3
Ministry of Labour & Industrial Relations	99	38.2
Ministry of Tourism & Leisure	21	55.3
Ministry of Women, Family Welfare & Child Development	70	52.6
Ministry of Public Infrastructure	102	3.6
Ministry of External Communication & The Outer Islands	7	46.7
Ministry of Health & Quality of Life	3,793	39.9
Ministry of Local Government & Environment	86	3.6
Ministry of Urban & Rural Development	57	30.0
Ministry of Youth & Sports	79	19.8
Ministry for Rodrigues	432	11.5
Ministry of Public Utilities	229	13.1
Total Central Government	***12,815***	**23.0**
Municipalities	528	12.8
District Councils	210	14.4
Total Local Government	***738***	**13.2**
Total General Government Services	**13,553**	**22.1**

Table 4.9 (a) - Number of women employed in Government Services by occupation , Island of Mauritius, June 1998

Occupation	Number of women	% Female
Legislators, senior officials & managers	**541**	**29.2**
PS	3	12.5
PAS	20	33.3
Director, manager,executive secretary,	30	16.8
Rector, principal	15	29.4
Headteacher, deputy headteacher	375	37.3
Other	98	18.4
Professionals	**2,430**	**44.1**
Judge	4	36.4
Magistrate	11	40.7
Medical doctor	104	20.8
Dentist	11	25.6
Pharmacist	3	37.5
Nursing officer / Midwife	1,484	54.9
Engineer	4	5.5
Economist	13	21.3
Statistician	9	36.0
Education officer	626	44.7
Scientific officer	23	29.5
Inspector, Supervisor - Primary	15	21.4
Auditor, (Senior/Principal)	10	38.5
Accountant	12	34.3
Other	101	22.2
Technicians & associate professionals	**4,178**	**34.4**
Teacher, Senior Teacher	2,005	48.0
Technical officer, technician	55	19.1
Dispenser	34	16.7
Ward assistant,sister	50	43.5
Assistant Secretary	57	44.5
Establishment officer,HEO	159	62.4
Executive officer	192	52.5
Social security officer/HSS0/Senior SSO	162	40.7
Customs officer, Senior Customs officer	35	6.6

Table 4.9 (a) - Number of women employed in Government Services by occupation , Island of Mauritius, June 1998 (cont'd)

Occupation	Number of women	% Female
Labour Inspector	24	48.0
Income tax inspector/Senior Inc.Tax Inspector	57	41.0
Statistical Assistant/ SSA	51	50.0
Personal officer/Senior PO	58	68.2
Community health worker	217	84.4
Postal officer	154	51.0
Other	868	18.3
Clerks	**3,476**	**52.6**
Clerk, clerical officer, school clerk	1,722	56.5
Typist, stenographer, confidential secretary	1,162	99.1
Data entry operator	95	86.4
Finance officer, AFO	188	49.6
Telephonist	30	15.1
Accounts clerk, examiner of accounts	35	38.0
Other	244	15.2
Service workers	**496**	**5.8**
Police constable, officer, sergeant	408	5.8
Guard - prison	48	6.5
Cook	32	28.3
Other	8	1.1
Skilled agricultural & fishery workers	**0**	**0.0**
Craft & related trade workers	**8**	**0.3**
Plant & machine operators	**4**	**0.3**
Elementary occupations	**1,268**	**9.5**
Labourer / agricultural worker	224	3.4
Caretaker, senior caretaker (office, school, building)	61	7.7
Attendant, hospital servant / domestic	905	27.2
Cleaner / washer	50	16.7
Other	28	1.2
Total	**12,401**	**23.9**

Table 4.9 (b) - Number of women employed in Government Services by occupation , Island of Rodrigues, June 1998

Occupation	Number of women	% female
Legislators, senior officials & managers	**9**	**28.1**
Director, Manager, Commissioner, Chairman, etc	0	0.0
Headteacher, deputy headteacher	8	36.4
Other	1	12.5
Professionals	**68**	**51.9**
Medical doctor	1	7.7
Dentist	0	0.0
Nursing officer / Midwife	67	60.9
Engineer	0	0.0
Other	0	0.0
Technicians & associate professionals	**127**	**35.8**
Teacher, Senior Teacher	59	53.6
Technical officer, technician	1	3.7
Dispenser	0	0.0
Ward assistant, Sister	10	58.8
Establishment officer,HEO	3	75.0
Executive officer	11	61.1
Social security officer/HSS0/Senior SSO	3	42.9
Customs officer, Senior Customs officer	1	25.0

Table 4.9 (b) - Number of women employed in Government Services by occupation , Island of Rodrigues, June 1998 (cont'd)

Occupation	Number of women	% female
Statistical Assistant / SSA	1	50.0
Community health worker	8	100.0
Postal officer	3	60.0
Other	27	18.2
Clerks	**122**	54.2
Clerk, clerical officer, school clerk	88	65.2
Typist, stenographer, confidential secretary	22	100.0
Telephonist	5	50.0
Accounts clerk, examiner of accounts	0	0.0
Other	7	12.3
Service workers	**2**	2.3
Guard, prison	1	4.0
Cook	0	0.0
Other	1	1.9
Skilled agricultural & fishery workers	**0**	0.0
Craft & related trade workers	**4**	0.8
Plant & machine operators	**0**	0.0
Elementary occupations	**82**	**3.9**
Labourer / agricultural worker	6	0.4
Attendant, Caretaker, hospital servant / domestic	68	33.2
Other	8	1.8
Total	**414**	11.2

Table 5.1 - Elected members by type of election and sex, 1985 - 1997

Type of election	Year	Number of members elected			%
		Male	Female	Both sexes	Female
National Legislative Assembly	1983	60	2	62	3.2
	1987	58	4	62	6.5
	1991	60	2	62	3.2
	1995	56	6	62	9.7
Municipal Council	1985	119	7	126	5.6
	1988	118	8	126	6.3
	1991	119	7	126	5.6
	1996	115	11	126	8.7
Village Council	1986	795	15	810	1.9
	1989	1,158	18	1,176	1.5
	1992	1,378	14	1,392	1.0
	1997	1,435	41	1,476	2.8

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